subject matter of these claims in a continuation or other application.

Please amend claims 21, 22, 26, and 27 as follows:

--21. (Amended) The method of claim 50, wherein F_1 corresponds to a segment of amino acid residues from within N-terminal residues 1-10 of SCF (SEQ ID NO:1), F_2 corresponds to a segment of amino acid residues from within residues 79-95 of SCF, and F_3 corresponds to a segment of amino acid residues located within three amino acid residues of amino acid residue 127 of SCF, and where, in X_n, X_m, and X_p respectively, n=0-5, m=0-5 and p=3-8 amino acid residues.--

--22. (Amended) The method of claim 50, wherein F_1, F_2, and F_3 have been selected by bacterial phage display for optimal receptor binding.--

--26. (Amended) The method of claim 50, wherein the organic polymer is polyethyleneglycol (PEG) comprising the structure $H[OCH_2CH_2]_nOH$, wherein n is 10-20.--

--27. (Amended) The method of claim 50, wherein the capping moiety is a thiol-reactive group.

Please add new claims 48 to 51 as follows:

--48. A method for designing a compound capable of binding to the Stem Cell Factor-binding site of a Kit comprising the steps of:

a) determining the 3-D structure of a fragment of

SCF by computing atomic co-ordinates from X-ray diffraction data of a crystal of the fragment of SCF, wherein the fragment of SCF is capable of binding to the Kit;

b) determining a Kit binding site on the fragment of SCF based on the 3-D structure; and

c) designing a compound capable of binding to the Stem Cell Factor-binding site of the Kit based on the 3-D structure shape complementarity or estimated interaction energy.

--49. The method of claim 48, wherein the fragment of SCF is a polypeptide comprising amino acids having the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:1.--

--50. (New) The method of claim 48, wherein the designed compound capable of binding to a Kit comprises two ligand heads linked by a linker molecule, wherein the linker molecule is an organic polymer attached at each end to a separate capping moiety, each capping moiety attached in turn to a single ligand head via a cysteine residue, wherein the ligand head comprises the elements F_1-X_n-F_L(Cys)-X_m-F_2-X_p-F_3, wherein F_1, F_2 and F_3 are peptides each comprising amino acid sequences corresponding to consecutive amino acid residues of SCF (SEQ ID NO:1), X_n and X_p are peptides of n and p amino acid residues respectively, F_L is the cysteine residue and each element is linked to the next via a peptide bond.--

--51. The method of claim 27, wherein the thiol-reactive group is N-ethyl malemide.--